MATTER UNDER RULE 312.

re : Scarcity of Water in K. G. F.

† SRI C. M. ARMUGHAM (K.G.F.).—Sir, last year, I broght to the notice of the Minister the acute scarcity of water supply in K. G. F. There are two major industries i. e. gold mines and Bharat Earth Movers. We were getting 18 lakh gallons of water every day. As against this, now we are getting 6 lakhs gallons of water. Further, the pump sets at Bethmangala was established in 1904 which has not yet been replaced all these years. In addition to this, it is learnt that one of the reasons for inadequate water supply is the low power voltage particularly between 8-00 A. M. to 11-00 A. M. and 6-00 P. M. to 8-00 P. M. As a result there was an hunger strike. I have raised this point last year. At that time, the Minister said that there was an estimate for Rs. 18.5 lakhs to remodelling and replacing certain old pipes. But, so far those pipes have not been replaced. There is no water supply to areas like Bowrilalpet, Andersonpet, Oorgampet and Pandara line. Even in mining areas there is no water supply. Now the Minister says that the Municipality is not in a position to take the loan of 18 lakhs., because it has no repaying capacity. I want to ask whether they have insisted the same condition when they gave water supply to Bangalore City Corporation while bringing water from 'Simsa' river. K. G. F. is paying nearly Rs. 1½ crores to the Go.ernment for water and power. So, you can't ask the Municipality to pay it. Firstly, the Government should take steps to replace the pipes, pumps and motors. Therefore, I appeal to the Government that he must immediately take action to restore the supply of water supply of 18 lakh gallons every day. Secondly they have to replace the age-old pump sets which is more than 75 years and also the motors so that the people of K. G. F. will have at least adequate water supply.

SRI H. C. SRIKANTAIAH (Minister for Municipal Administration).—I wish to state as :-

1. It is true that there has been some inadequate water supply to a few areas like Bowrilalpet, Andersonpet, pandara line etc. to focus the attention of the Municipality, Shri S. R. Shanmugam had undertaken a fast before the Municipal Office. However, the Administrator of the Municipality persuaded Shri Shanmugam to break his fast and accordingly he broke his fast on 6th April 1979. The Administrator has made a payment of Rs. 22,000 to the Executive Engineer of Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board to take certain immediate measures for increasing the water supply in areas where water is not being supplied in adequate quantity. The

Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board has been instructed to take certain measures to boost-up water supply.

2. The Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board have prepared an estimate for Rs. 18.50 lakhs for remodelling the entire water supply scheme in K. G. F. on a permanent basis. The finances of the Municipality do not permit it to take loan from the Government and pay the same to the Board for taking up the water supply scheme. The Administrator is proposing to request the Government for an out-right grant of Rs. 8.5 lakhs from the Government so as to enable the Board to take up this work. When such a request is received from the Administrator, K. G. F Municipality, the Government will consider the request sympathetically.

3. As per the Administrator, the water supply in various areas of K. G. F. Municipality is not so alarming as is made out. Every effort is being made to see that all areas get immediate water supply.

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ, ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆರ್ಮುಗಂರವರು ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಈ ನೀರಿನ ಅಭಾವದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನ ಸೆಳೆದಾಗ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಪಂಪುಸೆಟ್ಟುಗಳ ರೀಮಾಡ್‌ಲಿಂಗ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೋಟಾರನ್ನು ಬದಲಾಯಿಸುವುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಒಂದು ಎಸ್ಟಿಮೇಟ್ ಪ್ರಿಪೇರ್ ಮಾಡಿದರು. The have prepared an estimate for Rs. 18.50 lakhs and submitted for sanction. This has to be given in the form of loan. But that Municipality is not in a position to take the loan· They wanted outright grant. Now, Mr. Armugham mentioned that it is not in a position to take the loan. The estimate is in the Finance Dept., and it will be got examined and steps will be taken in the matter. Government sanctioned 3 lakhs to tide over the present situation.

There is an estimate of 3. 5 lakhs to get water to these areas mentioned by the member. The question of providing water to areas where scarcity is prevailing will be looked into and necessary steps will be taken. Mr. Armugam may please come with me and try to assess the scarcity.

SRI K. BHASKAR NAIDU·—I want to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to one point. Bangalore Corporation is getting money from the Government for supply of Cauvery water to the citizens of Bangalore City. In the case of Bellary also, this should be done.....

MR. SPEAKER.—Sri Armugam has sent notice. And he may seek clarification.

SRI K. BHASKAR NAIDU.—Only Mr. Armugam does not drink water. I also drink water.

MR. SPEAKER.—That subject is not in the agenda. How can allow a discussion ?

SRI K. BHASKAR NAIDU.—Water is the most important thing for everybody.

MR. SPEAKER.—Then the hon. member may please send a notice to-day, itself.

SRI K. BHASKAR NAIDU.—I do not represent only Bellary. I represent Karnataka. This government is showing favour only to the citizen of Bangalore.

MR. SPEAKER.—The hon. member may send a notice.

SRI K. BHASKAR NAIDU.—There is no need to send notice.

SRI C. M. ARMUGHAM.—Sir, there is a separate Water Board for Bangalore and in respect of whatever expenditure is incurred for the water supply, you do not ask the Bangalore Corporation to take loan and re-pay. Will you consider applying the same yard stick to cities like K.G.F., Bellary etc ? K.G.F. is the fifth or sixth largest city in Karnataka. Such cities should get the same treatment as Bangalore. Why should you insist on the City Municipalities on paying for it, when you are not insisting on the Corporation of Bangalore to repay the loan ? Government is there to look after the interests of entire Karnataka and not Bangalore only. You are not insisting on the City Corporation on paying the loan Yon have spent about 35 crores of rupees to supply water to Bangalore City. Why are you insisting on this amount of 18 lakhs from this Municipality ? May I request the Government to show relaxation in respect of certain cities like K. G. F. not to insist on Municipalities to take loans and make them repay ? It is the responsibility of the Government to provide water for the citizens of Karnataka.

SRI H. C. SRIKANTAIAH.—Not only K. G. F. Municipality, but almost all the Municipalities are not in a position to maintain water supply. Government is examining how the Municipalities can be taken over by the Karnataka Urban Water Supply Board.

MR. SPEAKER.—Now we will continue the general discussion on the budget.

[MR. CHAIRMAN, (SRI VEERAPPA MOILY) in the Chair]

Budget Estimates for 1979-80, General Discussion (Debate Continued)

† ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ. ರಾಂದೇವ್ (ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರ) —ಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ, ಮಾನ್ಯ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಆಹಾರ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಕುರಿತು ಒಂದು ಉತ್ತಮ ಮಾತನ್ನು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ಈಗ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಬಳಿ ಎರಡು ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್ನುಗಳಷ್ಟು ಭಾರಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದ ಧಾನ್ಯ ಸಂಗ್ರಹವಿದೆ, ಮುಂದಿನ ೧೨ ತಿಂಗಳುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ವಿತರಣಾ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ನಮ್ಮ ಆವಶ್ಯಕತೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಇದು ಸಾಕು ಎನ್ನುವ